COMMUNISTS STAND WITH LGBTQ LIBERATION

FIST

FIGHT IMPERIALISM, STAND TOGETHER (FIST)

COMMUNISTS STAND WITH LGBTQ LIBERATION!

Marriage, the family, and all the traditional views of what sexuality and reproduction should be, are centered around private property and exploitation. The oppression of women, as well as of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transpeople is built in to the capitalist system.

It is due to that fact that these oppressive traditions are rooted in capitalism, that Marxist-Leninists have been among the fiercest fighters for LGBTQ liberation:

- After the Socialist Revolution of 1917, the Soviet Union became the first country on earth to legalize homosexual love.

- The first Broadway play to champion LGBTQ rights was "The Children's Hour." It was written by Lillian Hellman, a Communist who defend Marxism-Leninism her entire life.

- Harry Hay, the founder the Mattachine Society, is considered one of the greatest pioneers of the LGBTQ liberation movement. He was a member of the Communist Party.

- The Black Panther Party aligned itself with the LGBTQ liberation movement. Huey Newton gave speeches in defense of LGBTQ people, calling out capitalism and imperialism for oppressing them.

- In the 1970s, the most well-known LGBTQ rights groups formed the Gay Liberation Front. It openly talked about overthrowing capitalism with socialist revolution.

Currently, Cuba is one of the most Pro-LGBTQ societies on earth. Trans-gender surgery is provided free of charge. School curriculum is all inclusive, and the government sponsors a Pro-LGBTQ media campaign.

Currently, the US imperialists are backing a brutal regime in Honduras, which has assassinated over 176 LGBTQ activists. The US aligns itself with Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and other gulf state autocracies that routinely execute homosexuals. The US aligned government of Uganda is led by fundamentalist Christians who push hatred for LGBTQ people as a central policy.

While US leaders may mouth support for LGBTQ people when demonizing the country they are currently preparing to attack, the worldwide system of capitalist-imperialism is the primary source of oppression in the world.

We in FIST think that a revolution is the answer. We say that people around the world fighting against the US imperialists are our friends and allies. We say that working class people in the US and around the world must stand together to fight racism, sexism, anti-LGBTQ bigotry, and all other tools the bosses use to divide us. We call for the overthrow of the small group of billionaires who run the US, and creation a society where everyone has what they need to survive.

FIGHT IMPERIALISM, STAND TOGETHER (FIST)
FIGHTIMPERIALISM.ORG

---

red flag
THE VOICE OF FIGHT IMPERIALISM, STAND TOGETHER (FIST)

For more LGBTQ, anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist news, read *Red Flag* magazine via redflagnews.org

BLACK PANTHER ACTIVIST HUEY P. NEWTON ON GAY, WOMEN'S LIBERATION

During the past few years strong movements have developed among women and among homosexuals seeking their liberation. There has been some uncertainty about how to relate to these movements.

Whatever your personal opinions and your insecurities about homosexuality and the various liberation movements among homosexuals and women (and I speak of the homosexuals and women as oppressed groups), we should try to unite with them in a revolutionary fashion.

I say "whatever your insecurities are" because as we very well know, sometimes our first instinct is to want to hit a homosexual in the mouth, and want a woman to be quiet. We want to hit a homosexual in the mouth because we are afraid that we might be homosexual; and we want to hit the women or shut her up because we are afraid that she might castrate us, or take the nuts that we might not have to start with.

We must gain security in ourselves and therefore have respect and feelings for all oppressed people. We must not use the racist attitude that the white racists use against our people because they are Black and poor. Many times the poorest white person is the most racist because he is afraid that he might lose something, or discover something that he does not have. So you're some kind of a threat to him. This kind of psychology is in operation when we view oppressed people and we are angry with them because of their particular kind of behavior, or their particular kind of deviation from the established norm.

Remember, we have not established a revolutionary value system; we are only in the process of establishing it. I do not remember our ever constituting any value that said that a revolutionary must say offensive things towards homosexuals, or that a revolutionary should make sure that women do not speak out about their own particular kind of oppression. As a matter of fact, it is just the opposite: we say that we recognize the women's right to be free. We have not said much about the homosexual at all, but we must relate to the homosexual movement because it is a real thing. And I know through reading, and through my life experience and observations that homosexuals are not given freedom and liberty by anyone in the society. They might be the most oppressed people in the society.

And what made them homosexual? Perhaps it's a phenomenon that I don't understand entirely. Some people say that it is the decadence of capitalism. I don't know if that is the case; I rather doubt it. But whatever the case is, we know that homosexuality is a fact that exists, and we must understand it in its purest form: that is, a person should have the freedom to use his body in whatever way he wants.

That is not endorsing things in homosexuality that we wouldn't view as revolutionary. But there is nothing to say that a homosexual cannot also be a revolutionary. And maybe I'm now injecting some of my prejudice by saying that "even a homosexual can be a revolutionary." Quite the contrary, maybe a homosexual could be the most revolutionary.

When we have revolutionary conferences, rallies, and demonstrations, there should be full participation of the gay liberation movement and the women's liberation movement. Some groups might be more revolutionary than others. We should not use the actions of a few to say that they are all reactionary or counter-revolutionary, because they are not.

We should deal with the factions just as we deal with any other group or party that claims to be revolutionary. We should try to judge, somehow, whether they are operating in a sincere revolutionary fashion and from a really oppressed situation. (And we will grant that if they are women they are probably oppressed.) If they do things that are unrevolutionary or counter-revolutionary, then criticize that action.

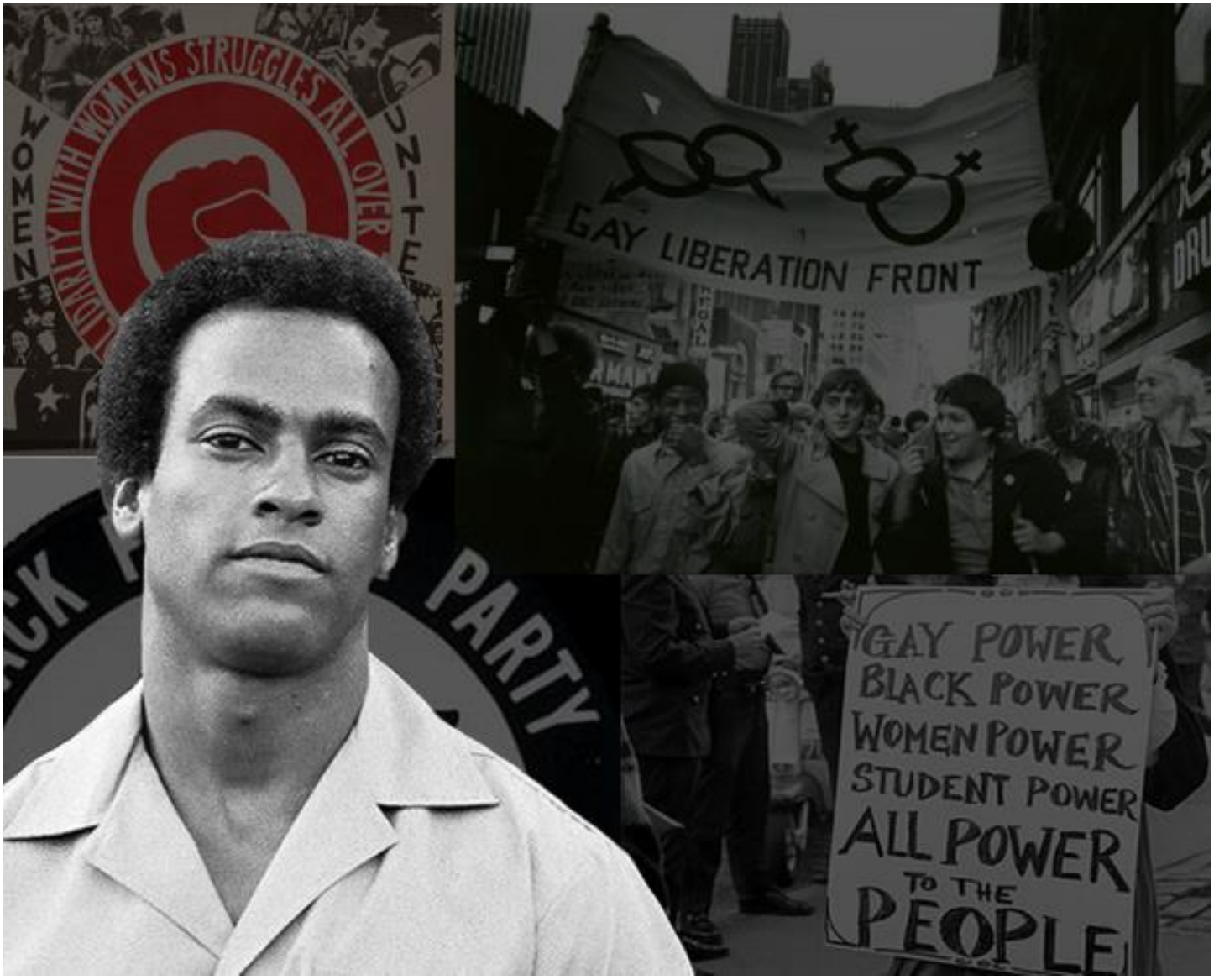
If we feel that the group in spirit means to be revolutionary in practice, but they make mistakes in interpretation of the revolutionary philosophy, or they do not understand the dialectics of the social forces in operation, we should criticize that and not criticize them because they are women trying to be free. And the same is true for homosexuals. We should never say a whole movement is dishonest when in fact they are trying to be honest.

They are just making honest mistakes. Friends are allowed to make mistakes. The enemy is not allowed to make mistakes because his whole existence is a mistake, and we suffer from it. But the women's liberation front and gay liberation front are our friends, they are our potential allies, and we need as many allies as possible.

We should be willing to discuss the insecurities that many people have about homosexuality. When I say "insecurities," I mean the fear that they are some kind of threat to our manhood. I can understand this fear. Because of the long conditioning process which builds insecurity in the American male, homosexuality might produce certain hang-ups in us. I have hang-ups myself about male homosexuality. But on the other hand, I have no hang-up about female homosexuality. And that is a phenomenon in itself. I think it is probably because male homosexuality is a threat to me and female homosexuality is not.

We should be careful about using those terms that might turn our friends off. The terms "faggot" and "punk" should be deleted from our vocabulary, and especially we should not attach names normally designed for homosexuals to men who are enemies of the people, such as [Richard] Nixon or [John] Mitchell. Homosexuals are not enemies of the people.

We should try to form a working coalition with the gay liberation and women's liberation groups. We must always handle social forces in the most appropriate manner.



ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!